

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MARSEI 00558 230829Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /054 W  
----- 103313 /15

R 221545Z DEC 76  
FM AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1296  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG  
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
AMCONSUL NICE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MARSEILLE 558

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT FR  
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST-SOCIALIST ELECTION DISPUTE IN MARSEILLE

1. DEPUTY MAYOR GASTON DEFFERRE'S RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SOCIALISTS WILL NOT JOIN WITH COMMUNISTS TO FORM LIST FOR FIRST ROUND OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS HAS BROUGHT PROTESTS AND A CALL FOR RECONSIDERATION COMMUNISTS.

2. DEFFERRE REASONS THAT SEPARATE LISTS WILL ALLOW SOCIALIS AND COMMUNIST CANDIDATES TO WIN IN VOTING SECTORS OF MARSEILLE WHERE THEY HAVE INDIVIDUAL STRENGTH AND PUBLIC SUPPORT. HE HAS STATED THAT COMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS ON COMMON LIST FOR FIRST VOTE COULD WELL LOSE INDIVIDUAL SECTORS TO MAJORITY CANDIDATES OR "RIGHT". HE HAS REPLIED TO COMMUNIST PROTEST BY STATING HIS TACTIC WLL INSURE UNION OF LEFT VICTORY IN SECOND ROUND WITH SOCIALISTS, RADICALS OF LEFT AND COMMUNISTS THROWING MUTUAL SUPPORT TO THEIR BEST PLACED SECTOR CANDIDATES.

3. UNKNOWN QUANTITY AT THIS POINT IS NUMBER OF INDEPENDENT  
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PAGE 02 MARSEI 00558 230829Z

INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL JOIN DEFFERRE LIST FOR FIRST ROUND. HE HAS ALWAYS DRAWN STRENGTH FROM WHAT HE TERMS "PERSONALITIES" OF CITY INCLUDING BUSINESSMEN, LAWYERS, FORMER MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT MAJORITY WHO RESPECT DEFFERRE AND RELY ON HIS ANTI-COMMUNISM. HIS PROMISE TO INCLUDE SOME COMMUNISTS IN CITY GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING "THE VICTORY OF THE LEFT" MAY NOW BLUNT

THEIR ENTHUSIASM. IN UNUSUAL ACTION DEFFERRE HAS ASKED THESE  
SUPPORTERS TO CONFIRM IN WRITING THEIR INTENTION OF JOINING  
HIS LIST.

4. REACTION OF GOVERNMENT MAJORITY (MARSEILLE-AVENIR) IS TO PLAY  
DEFFERE'S MOVE AS AN UNMASKING OF HIS TTRUE POLITICWL FACE  
AND PROOF THAT HE PLACES NATIONAL POLITICS ABOVE THE GOOD OF  
THE CITY.

CNSERVATIVE DPLY LE MERIDIONAL IS ATTACKING HIS STAND AND WARNING  
"NON-POLITICAL PERSONALITIES" OF MARSEILLE WHO SUPPORT DEFERRE

"DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY" THAT THEY ARE "DELIVERING THE CITY TO  
THE COMMUNISTS."

SIMPSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ELECTIONS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS  
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